

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE YAOUNDE 3903

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: UNESRO, SEDU, SHUM, CM

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1. SUMMARY: BY NOTE ON JULY 31, THE GURC ANNOUNCED THE CANDIDACY TE DR. AMADOU NDAM NJOYA, CAMEROON MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION AND PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO, FOR ELECTION TO UNESCO'S EXECUTIVE BOARD IN OCTOBER 1978.

2 BIO DATA: BORN [Sensitive Information Removed Per NARA 12 DEC 2014] IN NJINKA (FOUMBAN), HE PURSUED HIS SECONDARY STUDIES IN LYCEE LECLERC, YAOUNDE. HE RECEIVED A LAW DEGREE FROM THE FACULTY OF LAW IN PARIS (1968), DIPLOMA FROM THE INSTITUT DES HAUTES ETUDES D'OUTRE MER; DIPLOMA FROM THE SECTION OF GENERAL ADMINISTRATION AT THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION. IN 1969 HE RECEIVED DIPLOMAS IN ADVANCED STUDIES IN PUBLIC LAW AND POLITICAL SCIENCE. IN 1971 HE WAS AWARDED THE DOCTORATE D'ETAT. TITLE OF HIS THESIS "CAMEROON IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS".

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3. NJOYA RETURNED TO CAMEROON IN 1969 AND WAS APPOINTED AS A FOREGIN SERVICE OFFICER, A POSITION WHICH PRESUMABLY HE STILL HOLDS. IN 1970 HE WAS LECTURER IN THE FACULTY OF LAW AND ECONOMICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF YAOUNDE AND HE DIRECTED THE PROGRAM FOR THE TRAINING OF DIPLOMATS. HE SERVED AS THE FIRST DIRECTOR OF THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS UNTIL HIS APPOINTMENT AS VICE

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN JULY 1975. HE BECAME
MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION IN DECEMBER 1977 (REFTEL B)
AND ALSO SERVES ON CAMEROON'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL.
HE IS A RECIPIENT OF THE CHEVALIER DE L'ORDRE DE LA
VALEUR. MADAME NDAM NJOYA IS FRENCH.

4. IN JUNE 1978 NJOYA MET WITH GEORGE DALLEY, DEPUTY
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND
DR. ANNE HOLLOWAY, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG. THE
TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY AND HUMAN RIGHTS WERE TWO OF THE
TOPICS DISCUSSED. NJOYA MENTIONED THAT HE HAS BEEN
INVOLVED IN THE PREPARATION OF BASIC DOCUMENTS ON UNESCO
ON HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES. HE ALSO STATED THAT HE EXPECTED
TO LEAD CAMEROON DELEGATION TO UNESCO CONFERENCE AND HOPED
THE US WOULD SUPPORT HIS CANDIDACY FOR ELECTION TO THE
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (REFTEL A).

5. COMMENT: SON OF THE POWERFUL SULTAN OF FOUMBAN, THE
LEADER OF THE BAMOUN, NJOYA HAS HAD A SPECTACULAR CAREER
IN ACHIEVING FULL MINISTERIAL RANK AT THE AGE OF 36, ONLY
SEVEN YEARS AFTER EARNING THE DOCTORAT D'ETAT. GENERALLY
NONCOMMUNICATIVE, HE IS CONSIDERED SOMETHING OF AN
INTELLECTUAL, HAVING PUBLISHED HIS DOCTORAL THESIS AND
SEVERAL MONOGRAPHS ON THE BAMOUN PEOPLE. HE IS CONSIDERED A
COMPETENT TECHNOCRAT WHO HAS POLITICAL INFLUENCE. HE IS
GENERALLY CONCEDED TO HAVE DONE A GOOD JOB IN HIS MINISTERIAL POST.
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6. PLEASE ADVISE AS TO WHAT RESPONSE THE EMBASSY MAY
GIVE TO THIS REQUEST FOR SUPPORT FOR ELECTION TO UNESCO'S
EXECUTIVE BOARD.
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